

REPORT.

The committee of ways and means under the order of the House, have carefully examined and considered the bill to provide for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to Cumberland, and the bill to provide for the completion of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail road to the Borough of York, and respectfully report as the result of their deliberations, the opinion that the State of Maryland is called upon, by reasons that it cannot disregard without the most fatal results, at once to place the accomplishment of these works, beyond the reach of doubt.

For many reasons not necessary to be here enumerated, the committee has been induced to regard these works as parts of one grand system tending to the same great results, and believing that "in union there is strength," they have judged it expedient to present them in one harmonious scheme. The bill which they have the honor herewith to report, entitled, "An act to provide for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal to Cumberland, and to provide for the completion of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail road to the Borough of York, in the State of Pennsylvania," is but little varied from the several bills they have had under consideration, except by the introduction of every guard, which, while not calculated to restrain or impede the wholesome action of either of the two companies, cannot fail to satisfy those, who deeming themselves out of the reach of the benefits of what are denominated internal improvements, are yet willing to keep pace with the spirit of the age and the wants of the State at large, as far as may be entirely compatible with the security of the Treasury and the absence of taxation.

In regard to the expediency, or rather the necessity of those works, the proceedings of our predecessors and the enlightened labours of the committee on internal improvement, have left us little to do as yet.